

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims shall replace all previous listings of the claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a received signal quality signal in a communication system, the method comprising:

~~receiving a signal from a physical channel;~~

extracting a transport channel format combination indicator from ~~[[the]]~~ a received signal;

processing at least two ~~one or more~~ transport channel signals, contained in the received signal, in accordance with the extracted transport channel format combination indicator~~[[;]]~~, said processing including at least channel decoding; and

generating a received signal quality signal in dependence on the quality of ~~the or~~ each transport channel signal prior to channel decoding, said generating including generating an average bit error rate over the at least two transport channel signals.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~the or~~ each transport channel signal comprises a sequence of data blocks.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein the quality of ~~the or~~ each transport channel signal is represented by a block bit error rate determined ~~prior to~~ using channel decoding, if it is determined that the block passes an initial check process.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein the determined bit error rate of a transport channel signal is averaged over a period comprising a plurality of data blocks.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein, ~~in the case of a plurality of transport channel signals,~~ the bit error rates of each transport channel signal

are averaged over the same period.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[5]] 1, ~~including calculating an average bit error rate across the transport channel signals,~~ wherein the average bit error rate is weighted in dependence on the transport formats used for said transport signals.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, including the step of transmitting the received signal quality signal in a control channel.

8. (Currently Amended) A communication device comprising:
a receiver for receiving a signal from a physical channel;
processing means configured for:
extracting a transport channel format combination indicator from the received signal;
processing at least two ~~one or more~~ transport channel signals, contained in the received signal, in accordance with the extracted transport channel format combination indicator[[;]], said processing including at least channel decoding;
and
generating a received signal quality signal in dependence on the quality of ~~the or~~ each transport channel signal prior to channel decoding, said generating including generating an average bit error rate over the at least two transport channel signals.

9. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim [[7]] 8, wherein the processing means is configured for processing transport channel signals comprising sequences of data blocks.

10. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 9, wherein the quality of ~~the or~~ each transport channel signal is represented by a block bit error rate determined using ~~prior to~~ channel decoding, if it is determined that the block passes an initial check

process.

11. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 10, wherein the processing means is configured such that the determined bit error rate of a transport channel signal is averaged over a period comprising a plurality of data blocks.

12. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 11, wherein the processing means is configured such that, ~~in the case of there being a plurality of transport channel signals,~~ the bit error rates of each transport channel signal are averaged over the same period.

13. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 12, wherein the processing means is configured ~~for calculating an average bit error rate across the transport channel signals, such that the~~ average is weighted in dependence on the transport formats used for said transport signals.

14. (Original) A device according to claim 8, including a transmitter, wherein the processing means is configured for causing the transmitter to transmit the received signal quality signal in a control channel of a communication network.

15. (Original) A method of generating a received signal quality signal in a communication system, the method comprising:

receiving a signal from a physical channel, the signal comprising one or more transport channels;

extracting a transport channel format combination indicator from the received signal and determining the bit error rate therefore; and

generating a received signal quality signal in dependence on the bit error rate of the extracted transport channel format combination indicator.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein the determined bit error rates of a plurality of transport channel format combination indicator instances are averaged.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 15, including the step of transmitting the received signal quality signal in a control channel.

18. (Original) A communication device comprising:
a receiver for receiving a signal from a physical channel, the signal comprising one or more transport channels; and
processing means configured for:
extracting a transport channel format combination indicator from a received signal and determining the bit error rate therefore; and generating a received signal quality signal in dependence on the bit error rate of the extracted transport channel format combination indicator.

19. (Original) A device according to claim 18, wherein the processing means is configured for averaging the determined bit error rates of a plurality of transport channel format combination indicator instances.

20. (Original) A device according to claim 18, including a transmitter, wherein the processing means is configured for causing the transmitter to transmit the received signal quality signal in a control channel of a communication network.

21.-28. (Cancelled)

29. (New) A processor-readable medium containing processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to implement a method of generating a received signal quality signal in a communication system, the method comprising:

extracting a transport channel format combination indicator from a received signal;
processing at least two transport channel signals, contained in the received signal, in accordance with the extracted transport channel format combination indicator, said

processing including at least channel decoding; and

generating a received signal quality signal in dependence on the quality of each transport channel signal prior to channel decoding, said generating including generating an average bit error rate over the at least two transport channel signals.

30. (New) The medium according to claim 29, wherein each transport channel signal comprises a sequence of data blocks.

31. (New) The medium according to claim 30, wherein the quality of each transport channel signal is represented by a block bit error rate determined using channel decoding, if it is determined that the block passes an initial check process.

32. (New) The medium according to claim 31, wherein the determined bit error rate of a transport channel signal is averaged over a period comprising a plurality of data blocks.

33. (New) The medium according to claim 32, wherein the bit error rates of each transport channel signal are averaged over the same period.

34. (New) The medium according to claim 29, wherein the average bit error rate is weighted in dependence on the transport formats used for said transport signals.

35. (New) A processor-readable medium containing processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to implement a method of generating a received signal quality signal in a communication system, the method comprising:

receiving a signal from a physical channel, the signal comprising one or more transport channels;

extracting a transport channel format combination indicator from the received

signal and determining the bit error rate therefore; and

generating a received signal quality signal in dependence on the bit error rate of the extracted transport channel format combination indicator.

36. (New) The medium according to claim 35, wherein the determined bit error rates of a plurality of transport channel format combination indicator instances are averaged.